

Miracles

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us thy liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen

Look

Miracle stories are prevalent in the bible; it seems that Jesus is always healing someone. But, miracles are a little harder to come by in the modern world.

1. Have you ever witnessed a miracle – either in your own life or in the life of someone you know? What happened?
2. Were you willing to call it a miracle, or were you reluctant to use that word to describe what happened?

Book Mark 1:29-39

Jesus spends time in Capernaum healing people and casting out demons. In the morning, he goes out to a quiet place to pray. But, the disciples come to him asking him to return because more people are waiting to be healed.

1. Does Jesus go back to Capernaum at the disciples' request?
2. Why do you think Jesus leaves some people unhealed and goes to the next town instead?
3. Describe a time when you were hoping for a miracle but didn't get it.

Took

Sometimes it can be hard to stand firm in the good news of the gospel when we look around and see so many people in our lives who are waiting for a miracle. But Jesus isn't magic. Magic is the easy way out, the short cut. Mystery is hard, but mystery is where Jesus is.

1. Is it easy for you to stand in mystery or do you find that challenging? Why?
2. Do you ever feel like we are just waiting around for Jesus to come back and finish healing the world?
3. How do you feel about Lisa's claim that we don't have to just wait, but rather that we can bend time and space to create God's dream of a healed world, that we can be part of the miracle?
4. What might you do to create miracles in the world?